

Kuwait suspends flights to Beirut

BEIRUT (A.P.) — Kuwait's national airline, has suspended regular flights to Beirut indefinitely following an attack by Muslim Shi'ite gunmen on one of its jetliners at Beirut airport Wednesday, airport sources here said Saturday. The sources, who requested anonymity, said the Kuwait Airways employees at Beirut airport have been absent since the nine-hour seizure of the Kuwait Boeing 707 which carried 105 passengers and crew members. The gunmen, who requested an international investigation into the four-year-old disappearance of their spiritual leader surrendered later to Syrian peace keeping forces and freed all the hostages unharmed.

Volume 7, Number 1898

AMMAN, SUNDAY FEBRUARY 28, 1982 — JUMADA AL AWWAL 4, 1402

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Iraq accuses U.S. media of bias

KUWAIT (A.P.) — Iraq's Information Minister Latif Nusseif Jassef was quoted Saturday as accusing U.S. media of bias with Iran in its 17-month-old war with Iraq. He described the coverage of the war by Soviet media as impartial. In an interview with the Kuwait daily Al Watan, the minister said that Israeli and American media sided with Iran, while European media provided a mixed average. "This is because the Americans have a well-known interest in Iran, as implied in their statement by a White House official who recently announced that the U.S. is against the partition of Iran or threats to its independence. Such a political stand is inevitably reflected on the mass media."

Arafat says Arabs in deep crisis

BUDAPEST, Hungary (A.P.) — Yasser Arafat, the head of the Palestine Liberation Organization, has said that Arab states were in the throes of a "severe crisis" following the abortive Fez summit last November and said Israel was preparing for a major military action. In an interview with Hungarian Television broadcast late Friday, the PLO chief was asked if it was possible that another war breaks out in the Middle East. He said: "Israel has carried out (troop) concentrations, blockaded Lebanese shores. Establishment of (Israeli) settlements (on occupied Arab territory) has become common and preparations for a comprehensive military action... that can be launched any moment, are underway." The 45-minute interview was apparently taped during Mr. Arafat's official visit to Hungary in early February.

Mayor Freij urges Americans to help Palestinians

AMMAN (Petra) — Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij has called on the American people to help Palestinians achieve their freedom, independence and the right to self-determination. In an interview with the Washington Post newspaper, Mr. Freij said "over the past 15 years the Palestinian people have been living under Israeli occupation, and throughout that period Israel has been imposing on Arab inhabitants repressive measures and collective punishment." Foreigners believe that Israel is the victim of aggression, but the truth is that we, the Palestinian people, are the victims of Israeli aggression." Every day that passes, we witness an increase in the number of Israeli settlements and a further expansion of existing ones, he said. Israel is constantly consolidating its existence in the occupied Arab territories and in 10 years' time, Israel will Judaize the whole territory, he added.

Italy spots foreign submarine

ROME (R) — The Italian Defense Ministry Saturday said an unidentified nuclear submarine not belonging to NATO forces was spotted in the southeast gulf of Taranto this week. The ministry said the vessel was located last Wednesday by an Italian navy submarine. Taranto is Italy's most important military port, often used by NATO ships. A ministry spokesman declined comment on a Rome newspaper report that the vessel was a Soviet spy submarine of the Victor class which refused to answer radio calls and left Italian territorial waters only after a 14-hour chase.

Iraqi planes strafe Iranian positions

NICOSIA (A.P.) — Iraq said its war planes continued to attack Iranian troop and armour concentrations in the southern sector of the battlefield of the two warring countries, scoring direct hits. No details were given, but the air raids, reported by a war communiqué broadcast over Baghdad Radio, were believed to have been directed against Iranian targets in the border region of Boston, in the southern Iranian province of Khorasan where the two sides have been fighting for the last two weeks over strategic hills of the mountain passes.

Israel impedes efforts to improve Jordan-U.S. relations, Majali says

WASHINGTON (Petra) — Israel is putting obstacles in the way of all attempts aimed at improving relations between the United States on the one hand and Jordan or any other Arab country on the other, Jordan's Ambassador to the U.S. Abdul Hadi Al Majali said on Saturday.

In an interview with Radio Jordan, Mr. Majali charged that Israel continues to exert pressure on the United States lest it (U.S.) adopt a more balanced policy on the Palestinian problem.

Israel and the Zionist lobby here are at present concocting plans for a fresh propaganda campaign throughout the U.S. against any attempt for improving U.S.-

Arab ties, the ambassador said. This campaign, he pointed out, is also designed to prevent the American public from arriving at a better understanding of Arab issues. "I feel that the American public has lately shown better understanding of the Arab cause, and the Jordanian embassy's recent campaign against Israeli propaganda has contributed a great deal towards achieving this end."

Mr. Majali expressed his belief that the American people are becoming increasingly aware of the fact that their country's interests lie in adopting a just stand with regard to the Palestinian problem and in establishing strong relations with the Arab World.

Habib, Wazzan discuss South Lebanon truce

BEIRUT (R) — U.S. special envoy Philip Habib and Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan Saturday discussed ways of strengthening an uneasy ceasefire between Palestinians in South Lebanon and Israeli forces, Mr. Wazzan said.

The prime minister told reporters that Mr. Habib, who is on his fifth visit to the Middle East since a Syrian-Israeli crisis blew up last April, had not presented any specific proposals.

But he said the special envoy appeared determined to prevent renewed violence in South Lebanon and their talks and concentrated on how to strengthen the ceasefire which Mr. Habib helped to work out last July.

The U.S. administration on Friday reinforced Mr. Habib's mission by publicly warning Israel that Washington would not condone any military action in South Lebanon.

Israel's new ambassador to the United States, Moshe Arens, had declared that Israel might be provoked into action in South Lebanon because of a continuing build-up of Palestinian forces there and the danger to Israeli lives living near the border.

But State Department Spokesman Dean Fischer said the administration was "not aware of any major infusion of arms from any source since last July that could be significantly altering the balance of forces" in the area.

Mr. Habib, a former Vietnam peace negotiator, declined to say anything to reporters about his talks with Mr. Wazzan.

He later drove to the Christian eastern sector of Beirut for talks with Foreign Minister Fuad Butros.

U.S. officials are refusing to spell out the exact aims of Mr. Habib's new round of talks in the Middle East and have decided to say whom he will see or where he may travel next.

Meanwhile, hundreds of students at the University of Jordan converged on the Faculty of Commerce, at which the victims studied, to extend condolences, while thousands more attended the funeral services held at the

university's mosque nearby.

The death toll in the accident Friday was nine people dead, including an assistant professor at the Faculty of Commerce.

Classes were suspended at the faculty, and a gloomy atmosphere hung over the university while students cluttered together still not believing that their colleagues had passed away.

One survivor, Na'im Naji, a second-year commerce student gave the Jordan Times the account of the accident. He said that the bus carrying some 70 students from the Faculty of Commerce was hit by an army vehicle twice while it approached an intersection about two kilometres away from the ancient Nabataean city, Petra. The collision resulted in total failure of the pneumatic brakes and the clutch of the bus which was forced down some 700 metres along the twisting narrow road before it rammed into a rocky ridge on the right side of the road.

"Because of the high speed of

the bus which was moving at about 160 kilometres an hour, and the force of the collision, some students were thrown out of the window and crammed between the bus and the ridge which resulted in their death," Mr. Naji said.

Mr. Naji, who himself escaped



The funeral procession in Amman Saturday of victims of the Petra road accident which claimed nine lives on Friday (Petra photo)

Petra road disaster raises deep concern

By Dina Matar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Eight University of Jordan students seriously injured in a tragic traffic accident Friday were declared out of danger, Saturday afternoon. Two others, a female student and the driver of the bus which carried the accident victims, were still in critical condition.

The injured students, who were flown by three Royal Jordanian Air Force helicopters to the King Hussein Medical Centre near Amman, were immediately put under intensive care.

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NATIONAL

New airport services give helping hand to visitors

AMMAN — If a visitor is at a loss upon his arrival at Amman Airport concerning an immigration question or a hotel reservation or a similar problem, he is now most likely to find a friendly face and a helping hand at the counter under the Tourism Information Centre sign.

Opened only this year, the off-

ice offers its services at least 18 hours a day, with two employees manning each of the three six-hour shifts.

Director General of Tourism Michael Hamarnich called the office's recent inauguration a "soft opening", explaining to the Jordan Times that this is only a trial period for the office's operation.

"We want to see what sort of problems arise and find means of solving them," he elaborated. "We are preparing for our office at the new airport (Queen Alia International Airport, to open during 1982), and this experience will help us equip it with information on all levels, not just on tourism."

There still a lot that the office in

its present form can offer arriving passengers, whether they come as individuals or in groups. Out of 136 travel agents in Jordan, 110 depend on it to handle airport formalities for their arriving groups. The other 26 — those working with tour operations on continuous basis — handle their groups for themselves. Mr. Hamarnich expressed his hope, however, that in the future all passengers could be handled by an official office. Minimising the number of travel agents in the lobby would help reduce the congestion there, he said.

The most valuable service that the office can offer the individual tourist, besides providing him with the usual brochures, is to help him make a hotel reservation. The office has installed a direct telephone line — not easy to come by at the airport. The line, whose number is 93410, enables the staff to book the visitor into a hotel of his choice. The customer is offered a list of the hotels in town; "but we will not advise on any hotel or on any travel agent," Mr. Hamarnich emphasised. "This way no one will make money out of it."

The office itself does make money out of each hotel reservation it secures, since hotels pay a set fee for each booking. This way it is envisaged that the office will pay for itself eventually.

The staff has taken on yet another responsibility — a statistical one. It provides the Ministry of Tourism with lists of tourists in incoming groups. "This will help us to pinpoint how many 'real' (not transiting) tourists we have had," explained the director general.

Although under the complete supervision of the Ministry of

By Suzanne Zer'um-Black
Special to the Jordan Times

had a few complaints however. "It is a good step to rectify the bad reputation the airport taxi service has had, such as manipulating the passengers," driver Mohammad Hamdan said, "but the new organisation overlooks a few points which are not in our favour."

Drivers claim the tariff does not take into consideration the need for a surcharge on night fares, as is practised in many large cities.

They also complain of vague descriptions given by passengers at the start of the journey of their destination. "The receipt might indicate the Jordan Times newspaper (an area within Amman city limits for which the fare, acc-

ording to the tariff, is JD 2) while the actual destination is Daliat Al Rashid (an area the drivers consider to be outside city limits)," driver Eid Jibril said.

Another example is when a passenger wants to go to a certain hotel that has no vacancy and then refuses to pay an extra fare to get him to another hotel.

One issue they all feel very strongly about is that they are not allowed to charge for "excess baggage." "Look at all this luggage that is to be loaded into one taxi," drivers' supervisor Mahmoud Kabir said, pointing to two luggage carts that were loaded with

seven pieces of bulky luggage, including a television set.

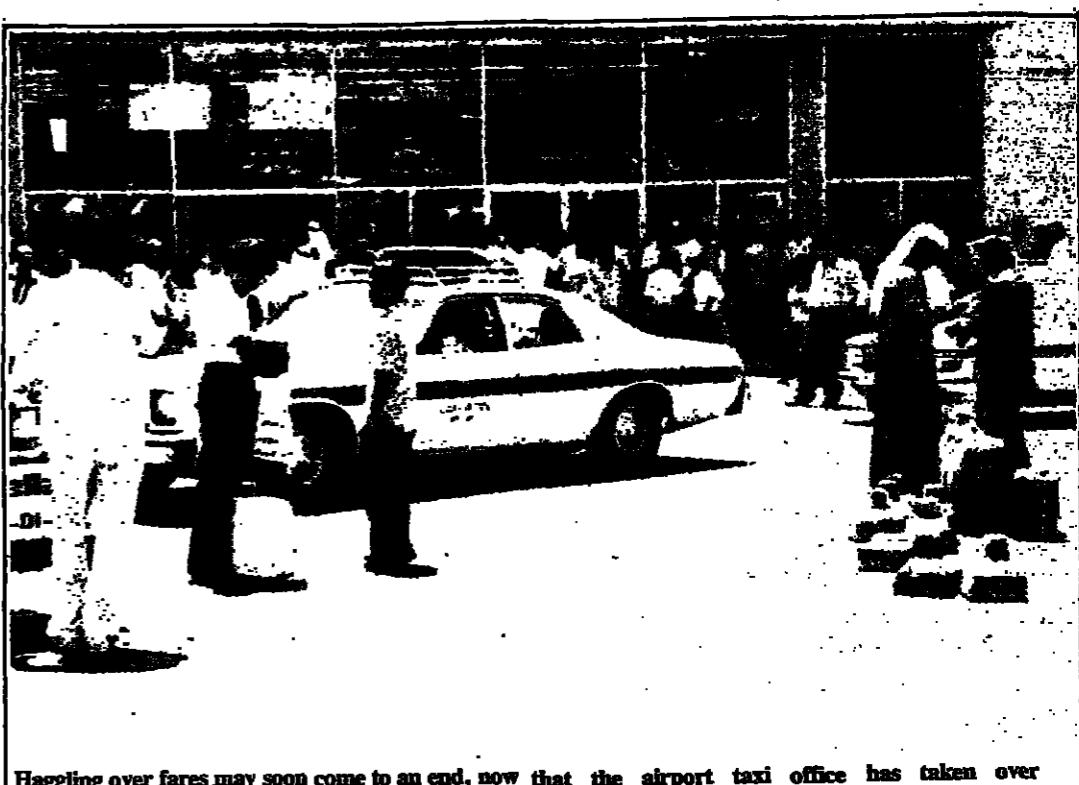
DCA, however, is trying to remedy the situation. Amman Airport Director Ibrahim Abd said the department is making contacts with the concerned authorities to review the conditions.

Other than the JD 2 charged within Amman limits, according to the tariff, a trip to Zarqa would cost JD 3.200, to Irbid JD 9.500, to Jerash JD 6.200, to Madaba JD 5 and to Aqaba 28.500.

The fares are computed on the basis of a flat fare of JD 2, to which is added the cost of a round-trip taxi to any one destination, Mr. Abd explained.



Bewildered foreign visitors like these will get help on arrival in Amman when the tourist office is in full swing.



Haggling over fares may soon come to an end, now that the airport taxi office has taken over passenger-taxi driver bargaining.

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Abu Odeh explains Jordan's position

Jordan Valley rally declares full support for volunteer force

AMMAN (Petra) — A popular rally was held in the northern Jordan Valley region on Saturday to express support for His Majesty King Hussein's initiative to send volunteers to fight alongside Iraq in the Gulf war.

Representatives of popular organisations, clubs, charitable societies, women's organisations and labourers who attended the rally stressed their readiness to offer financial and material support to Iraq against the Iranian enemy.

Speakers said that King Hussein's initiative is a call on all Arabs to forget their divisions and differences, join efforts, mobilise their resources and confront the common danger represented by the Iranian regime.

Among the main speakers was District Governor Mohammad Abdul Dayem, who called on Arab states to rally to the side of Iraq. That country, he said, is defending the whole Arab Nation against the dangers of the conspiracies concocted by the Iranian regime in collusion with Israel.

Participants in the rally sent cables of support to His Majesty King Hussein and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq. It was announced at the rally that the inhabitants of the northern Jordan

Valley are contributing a total of JD 45,710 to the Yarmouk Force.

Meanwhile, Information Minister Adnan Abu Odeh was quoted Saturday in Kuwait as saying that Jordan's support for Iraq in its war against Iran represents a basic principle within the framework of Arab brotherly relations, the Arab joint defence pact and the Arab League Charter.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti magazine Al Nahda, Mr. Abu Odeh said it is a "brotherly duty" to stand by Iraq against aggression. Dispatching Jordanian volunteers to Iraq is intended to express Jordan's involvement in the war that has been going on for more than a year and a half, the

minister said. Mr. Abu Odeh said that Iraq does not complain of a scarcity of men or arms, but the Arab Nation should not abandon Iraq, which is involved in a war in defence of the Arab Nation and its rights. The whole of the Arab Nation should extend support to Iraq, at least in a symbolic manner, "just to prove to the world at large that the Arab cause is one and an integral whole, and that Arab land is dear wherever it is located," the minister was quoted as saying.

He added that Iraq had in the past performed its national and military duty towards the Arab Nation, on several fronts against the Zionist enemy.

Participants in a Jordan Valley rally Saturday in support of the Yarmouk Force (Petra photo)



Higher panel formed for Jerash Festival

AMMAN (Petra) — The formation of a higher national committee for the Jerash Festival was announced here on Saturday.

The committee, to be chaired by Her Majesty Queen Noor, includes Mrs. Laila Sharaf, Minister of Culture and Youth Ma'an Abu Nowar, Princess Wijdan Ali, Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran, Jordan Television Director Mohammad Kamal and Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airlines Chairman Ali Ghadour, as well as representatives of the Ministry of Information and the armed forces and Dr. Mazen Al Armoori, head of Yarmouk University's Journalism and Mass Communication Department.

The committee will hold its first meeting under the chairmanship of Queen Noor on Wednesday.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Ibrahim back from Indian trip

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Hassan Ibrahim returned to Amman on Saturday after accompanying His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on his official visit to India. Describing Prince Hassan's talks with Indian leaders as fruitful and useful, Mr. Ibrahim said that they centred on ways of further promoting Jordanian-Indian cooperation in various areas. The talks, he added, also covered Middle East developments, the present plight of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and a number of international issues of mutual concern.

Public Security chief sees Bahraini

AMMAN (Petra) — Public Security Director Mohammad Idris conferred in his office Saturday with Bahraini ambassador to Jordan Abdullah Al Hussein. They discussed subjects connected with bolstering cooperation between the Jordan and Bahrain in police affairs.

Diplomatic housing panel approved

AMMAN (J.T.) — The cabinet has approved the formation of a special committee to supervise the purchase and rental of buildings and houses needed by Jordanian diplomatic missions abroad, Al Ra'i newspaper reported Saturday. It said the committee would include representatives of the ministries of foreign affairs and public works, and the Budget Department.

Team due at Sanaa health meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will participate in the seventh session of the Arab health ministers' council due to begin in Sanaa, North Yemen on Monday. The participants in the four-day meeting will discuss 29 subjects, including the health conditions of occupied Arab territories, citizens' procedures for transferring the World Health Organisation (WHO) regional office for the East Mediterranean to Amman and strengthening Arab presence at WHO. Jordan's delegation to the meeting will be headed by Minister of Health Zuhair Malhas, and will include the head of the hospitals section, the Irbid governorate Health Department assistant director and the head of the public relations section.

Income tax chief gets university post

AMMAN (J.T.) — The cabinet has approved a decision taken by the University of Jordan's Council of Deans, appointing Income Tax Director General Abdullah Al Nsour as a member at the Faculty of Law council for a renewable one-year term, Al Ra'i newspaper reported on Saturday.

Municipal employees learn civil defence

AMMAN (Petra) — A training course on civil defence duties began on Saturday at Amman Municipality under the supervision of the Civil Defence Directorate. The 30 participants in this 10-day training course include employees of the municipality's department of health affairs and the department of boroughs.

20 merchants hit with fines

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced 20 Jordanian merchants to pay a fine of JD 30-70 each for violating Ministry of Supply regulations. The military governor approved these sentences on Saturday.

Social organisations registered

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Social Development Ibtisam Al Mutti has approved the registration of a number of societies and a nursery as part of the ministry's efforts to encourage the growth of social services all over the country. These societies include the Bayt Al Bayut in Ma'an, Gheireya Society for Social Development in Zarqa, Kuf Huda Welfare Society and Dar Al Hanan Nursery in Ma'an.

U.N. envoy sees Qasem on Palestine

AMMAN (J.T.) — A U.N. envoy discussed with Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem here Saturday the living conditions of Palestinian Arabs now under Israeli occupation.

The envoy, Prof. Austin Tetteh from the University of Science and Technology in Ghana, arrived in Amman on Feb. 24 following visits to Syria and Lebanon on a fact-finding tour. At his meeting with Prof. Tetteh, Mr. Qasem talked about Israel's expansionist policies in occupied Arab territory, its confiscation of Arab land and imposition of heavy taxes on the local inhabitants with the aim of forcing them to abandon their homeland.

He also spoke about facilities Israel extends to Jewish groups to encourage them to establish settlements on occupied Arab lands, in violation of U.N. resolutions that have recognised the Palestinian peoples' rights in their homelands and denounced Israel's measures.

At a recent session, the U.N. General Assembly passed a resolution calling on U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to submit a report to the assembly about the deteriorating conditions of the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation. The report is to

be presented to the assembly's next session. Prof. Tetteh represents the secretary general on his mission.

While in Syria and Lebanon, Prof. Tetteh met with Palestine Liberation Organisation officials to discuss the issue. The envoy, who is due to leave Amman on March 5, will be meeting with Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Hassan Ibrahim.



Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem (right) meets Prof. Austin Tetteh Saturday (Petra photo)

Customs delegation back from Iraq visit

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian customs delegation returned to Amman Saturday evening at the end of a week-long visit to Iraq. The delegation's head, Finance and Customs Ministry Under-Secretary Yassin Al Kayed, said the visit was to enable the delegation to look into Iraqi customs systems and explore the possibility of bolstering customs cooperation between Jordan and Iraq.

Mr. Kayed, said that his delegation toured a number of Iraqi customs posts, including one that handles goods imported by Iraq through Aqaba port.

Mr. Kayed told Iraqi officials that Jordan will be willing to cooperate with Iraq in establishing a laboratory for testing imported

goods, and to offer Jordanian expertise in this regard. He said that agreement was reached in the talks to dispatch customs officers from each country to visit the other, and look into its customs systems.



Yassin Al Kayed

Small firms' employees get SSC coverage in July

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Social Security Corporation (SSC) will extend coverage under the Social Security system to all establishments with five or more employees as of the beginning of July, Al Ra'i newspaper reported on Saturday.

The paper quoted an SSC official as saying that this step is a very important one in view of the large number of small establishments which will benefit from this action all over the country.



AMMAN (Petra) — Adm. Sir Terence Lewis, the British chief of the defence staff, and his delegation left Amman on Saturday at the end of a two-day visit to Jordan. They were seen off at the airport by Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid ibn Shaker, Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb, British Ambassador to Jordan Alan Urwick and British embassy staff. Before leaving on Saturday Sir Terence was received by Sharif Zaid at the army command.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

• Multimedia exhibition of contemporary American art at the American Centre.

• Our Cities: Past and present, a photographic exhibition at the Yarmouk University Hall in Irbid.

Zarqa office opens soon for imports and exports

ZARQA (Petra) — An import-export licensing office is to open here early next week, according to an announcement made Saturday.

The announcement came at the end of a meeting between Zarqa District Governor Salem Al Qudah and the office's director, at which they reviewed final arrangements for the opening of the office.

NCC committee meets Wed. on advice for student travel

AMMAN (Petra) — The National Consultative Council educational and social committee will hold a meeting on Wednesday.

At the meeting, which is to be attended by specialists from the Ministry of Education and the two Jordanian universities, discussion will cover ways of advising Jordanian students who go abroad for university education.

Today's Weather

Due to the approach of a sandstorm, it will be dusty and partly cloudy to cloudy, with scattered thunder showers in the afternoon. In Aqaba, winds will be southerly moderate to fresh, with rough seas.

	Overnight low	Daytime high
Amman	9	18
Aqaba	14	22
Deserts	8	21
Jordan Valley	11	20

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 20, Aqaba 24. Humidity readings: Amman 38 per cent, Aqaba 38 per cent.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

Responsible Editor: **MOHAMMAD AMAD**
 Board of Directors:
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JORDAN PRESS FOUNDATION
 University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan

Telephones: 67171-2-3-4
 Tel. 21497 Al Rai JO, Cables: JORTIMES, Amman, Jordan

The Jordan Times is published daily except Friday.
 Advertising and subscription rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

No more make-believe

THE VISIT that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak is expected to make to Israel sometime in the coming few months is proving to be a point of some dispute between Egypt and Israel. There is an obvious concern in Israel (and in the mind of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, if leaked accounts of his staff meetings are accurate) that after the full Israeli withdrawal from Sinai in April the Egyptians will cool their enthusiasm for normalisation of relations with Israel. The Mubarak visit is symbolic, in the eyes of both sides, of the depth of relations between the Israelis and Egyptians after all of Sinai is returned to Egypt and the separate peace agreement of Camp David is consummated.

What is happening, in reality, is that the full holiness of the American approach to peace, as codified in the Camp David accords, is coming to the fore. With the Egypt-Israel separate peace concluded, we can all focus more attentively on the ridiculousness of the whole Palestinian "autonomy" concept and the American-Egyptian-Israeli negotiations for that purpose.

So the point being dealt with now is not the depth of Egyptian-Israeli ties or Egypt's possible political rapprochement with the rest of the Arabs. The point that is so difficult to grasp by would-be American peacemakers and other well meaning dreamers is that the Palestine-Israel conflict remains not only unresolved, but untouched as well. It is difficult for grown men to admit that they have lived in a make-believe world for three years. But this is what they are having to do, despite whatever names they give to the process.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

What can Habib achieve?

AL RA'I: Israel has renewed its actions of terrorism against our steadfast people in Arab Jerusalem. These days Israel is camouflaging these actions of terrorism against our people. It is confiscating their lands, imprisoning them and imposing arbitrary taxes on them in order to force them to leave their homes.

These new actions of terrorism are carried out by the Zionist gang which calls itself "terrorism against terrorism" which had attacked Bassam Al Shak'ah and Karem Khalaf. This gang resumed its activities in Jerusalem on Friday by smashing the windows of Al Nuzha Cinema and a number of Arab-owned cars in Jerusalem. The gang blatantly publicised its crimes on the walls. It also contacted the Israeli news agency and claimed responsibility for what happened saying that it was getting ready to carry out a number of assassinations in order to drive the Arabs outside the country.

The culprits will not be caught because they are the unofficial arms of the Israeli authorities. Israel has mobilised this unofficial arms of terrorism following Menachem Begin's threat to launch wide-scale operations in southern Lebanon if even one Israeli citizen was harmed. This means that Israel is precipitating an excuse to attack southern Lebanon. This is why it has launched those criminals to attack Arab people in Jerusalem and to damage their properties in anticipation of any resistance or reaction by the Arabs which Israel could use as the excuse it is waiting for.

It seems that the scenario of Israeli adventures, heralded by U.S. newspaper, is about to begin. Will Philip Habib be able to convince Israel to abandon such a scenario, or has Israel already decided to begin it before he has the chance to convince it to stop it?

Answer me this...

AL DUSTOUR: Since the socialists under Mitterrand came to office, Paris has been issuing a number of obscure hints and contradictory statements on the French stand towards the Middle East conflict. The declared French policy has been tilted more towards vagueness and double standards.

This contradiction has been evident in Cheyssy's visits to the capital cities of the region when he tried to please both the Arabs and the Israel: when he said something in Tel Aviv that angered the Arabs, Cheyssy hastened to sing a different tune in Arab capital cities which angered Israel and pleased the Arabs. These double standards prove the nonexistence of a French clear policy or defined stand towards the parties in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Last Thursday, French President Mitterrand called for amending the charter of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which he explained as calling for the destruction of Israel, so that negotiations could be started. Although this statement was said by President Mitterrand, it is in fact what the Israelis reiterate to justify their obstructing of the peace efforts and their refusal to recognise the PLO as the Palestinians' representative. We do not understand how the French president accepts this Israeli logic which reverses fact and calls on the victims to recognise the aggressor and submit to its will and ideas.

We do question this fluctuation in the French stand. Is it due to ignorance or to a deliberate ignorance of the reality and the nature of the conflict in the region? Is it not being biased towards and conspiring with the aggressor to enable it to continue its policy of aggression and expansion?

Why should the Palestinians of all peoples be deprived of their right to return to their homeland? Can President Mitterrand answer this question?

The second-class Israelis

By Elfi Pallis

Seven months after his re-election, Menachem Begin continues to be Israel's most popular leader. Although his government's expenditure cuts and abolition of food subsidies have hurt oriental Jews particularly, it is still this section of Israel's population which affords him the strongest support. The oriental Jews' loyalty to the Likud government has puzzled many observers, but in view of that community's experiences under the Labour government that ruled Israel from its inception in 1948 until 1977, it is not difficult to understand.

The integration of the Jewish immigrants from the Arab world into Israel has been surrounded by much Zionist mythology. Recently, however, Labour's claim to have transformed "those primitive oriental Jews from cave-dwellers into civilised beings" has come under sharp attack from Israeli sociologists. A new book by Dr. Shlomo Svirsky of Haifa university, *La Nichehla el Meguchshalin* ("Made to Fail"), reveals a history of anti-oriental attitudes and discrimination which goes a long way to explain oriental Jewish sympathies for the party that defeated the Labour alignment.

Israel's oriental Jews, also referred to as Sephardis, have never been a homogeneous group.

While a small number of "real" Sephardis settled in Palestine after their expulsion from Spain in the 15th century, most arrived after 1948 from Yemen, Iraq, Syria, Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia and Algeria. Some still spoke Ladino, a derivative of mediaeval Spanish, while others spoke Arabic or French. They had been artisans and small traders in some countries, scholars and government officials in others. Although the Jewish elites of the Arab world moved to France rather than to Israel, the newcomers included professional people, religious figures and community leaders. Only a small group from the Atlas mountains had ever lived in caves.

Whatever their background or skills the oriental arrivals were treated much the same by the Ashkenazi (European-born) Labour establishment: the men were sent to work as unskilled labourers, while the women became servants in Ashkenazi homes. A worse shock was the housing prepared for them. Tent cities had been set up to serve as transit camps for the over 700,000 Jewish immigrants who joined roughly the same number of Jews already in Palestine. Initially, the camps housed both Ashkenazi and Sephardis, but the Europeans did not stay long. Their common language and many family ties with the Ashkenazi Labour administrators gave them the chance to move quickly on to better things. The transit camps were soon inhabited

The widening gap

Those who tried to better themselves by honest means found the dice loaded against them. Fees for the last years of highschool and university education were beyond the means of most oriental Jews. As a result, while numbering over half of the total Jewish population, they still constitute only 12 per cent of Israeli university students. When oriental Jews were moved into abandoned Arab towns, or had their "transit" camps upgraded to development towns, local industries were set up for them; government job creation subsidies were channelled to Ashkenazi private investors and to state enterprise managers from outside the towns. Oriental Jews were directed towards jobs in textile mills and food processing; the high technology plants were set up in Ashkenazi areas.

Now the term "oriental Jew" has become synonymous with "working class", and the gap between the two communities continues to widen. In 1972, 25.3 per cent of European-born Jews were in professional and managerial jobs, but only 9.7 per cent of the Afro-Asian Jews were. In 1977, the proportions were 30.9 per cent of the former, but only 12.9 of the latter. According to Dr. Svirsky, the difference today is "so immense that future educational changes and longer residence in Israel are unlikely to reduce it greatly".

Israeli labour officials have responded to such criticism by pointing

out

to the handful of Sephardis who have nevertheless risen to prominent positions, or by blaming their past misapprehensions about oriental Jews. Yet this fact itself requires an explanation. Why, for example, was a full social history of the oriental Jewish communities only commissioned a few months ago, and not by any Israeli body but by the World Sephardic Federation? And why are oriental Jews still untruthfully depicted in Israeli school books as having been downtrodden and ignorant in their countries of origin? It is hard to escape the impression that to regard oriental Jews as only capable of menial work happened to fit the need of post-1948 Israel for a Jewish proletariat that could replace the Palestinians.

In Israeli political life oriental Jews have been long confined to a rank-and-file role. Labour governments usually allotted only the ministries of police and of postal services to oriental Jews, and a party committee chairman without a Slav accent was, and is, almost unheard of. Even Israel's Labour-controlled trade union, the Histadrut, only had four oriental Jews among its 55 top officials in 1981. According to Amos Kenan, one of Israel's foremost political commentators: "The old Labour establishment recognised only Ashkenazis as authentic Israelis. The rest were seen as more or less primitive tribes, whose culture was best forgotten, and whose social patterns had to be destroyed." The result has been a steady drift away from the Labour Alignment, which most oriental Jews had once felt duty-bound to vote for, unless they were supporters of a religious party.

Menachem Begin and Ariel Sharon are also of European origin, but they have shown themselves to be far more sensitive to oriental Jewish feelings than their Labour opponents. There are not many more oriental Jews in the Likud government, but those who are have given highly prestigious positions: the Egyptian-born housing minister, David Levy, doubles as deputy prime minister, and Professor Itzhak Navon, whose family has lived in Jerusalem since the Inquisition, is well into his second term as Israel's president.

The Likud party strongly emphasises that "the Jews are one nation", a slogan which compares favourably with Labour's endless nostalgic references to the "beautiful Israel" of before 1948, when there were hardly any oriental Jews in the country. Likewise, Mr. Begin's frequent invocations of "Jewish pride", which are echoed by the small Moroccan-based Tami party, have struck a chord in Israel's long humiliated oriental Jewry.

Cushioned by Western aid, Mr. Begin has been able to contain such criticism by expensive gestures. New construction projects have been initiated, and lavish community centres are going up in the midst of oriental Jewish neighbourhoods. The Likud has not abandoned discrimination, but as long as it can afford to act with such generosity, oriental Jews are unlikely to recognise it as merely another Ashkenazi party offering them guns for butter.

Elfi Pallis, an Israeli living in London, is editor of Israeli Mirror.

Since 1967, many oriental Jews

have escaped from poverty on the backs of the Palestinians. The small building contractors and workshop owners have benefited from cheap Arab labour, and many have taken advantage of their Arabic by finding well-paid jobs in the growing police and military complex. According to opinion polls, Israeli-born oriental Jews are now the most hawkish and anti-Arab of the Jewish population. But they cannot simultaneously despise the Palestinians and demand to be respected. As Sephardi writer A.B.

Yeshoshua put it in a *Maariv* article: Those who keep talking about an "Arab mentality" should not be surprised to hear others making derogatory references to an "oriental Jewish mentality". something which had caused much of our deprivation. Oriental Jews want their heritage and the culture they developed over hundreds of years in their countries of origin to be respected, but this is impossible as long as they despise the Arabs amongst whom they used to live, and whose culture formed the basis for their own.

Moreover, the exploitation of the Palestinians is not in the long-term interest of oriental Jews. When there was full employment, they gladly left the hard, dirty work to Arabs, but now that the Israeli economy is contracting, the two groups are beginning to compete for jobs. Not surprisingly, the non-unionised Palestinians who are in no position to demand index-linked wage increases are preferred by many Israeli employers.

Reports that many of oriental Jewish families living below the poverty line has doubled under Likud rule have caused public disquiet. In the development towns many factories have been closed and as a result support for Likud had declined. In west Jerusalem, the Ohel movement, which campaigns against a housing shortage affecting almost exclusively Sephardic couples, has been picketing government offices with placards saying: "Homes here, not settlements in the territories."

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Why? Because Israeli occupation authorities see it as "extremely destructive", in the words of Menachem Milson, a former professor of Arab studies who now heads up the Israeli government's new Civil Administration for the West Bank.

The guidance committee, Milson says he has reason to know, "is the arm of the PLO in this area and behind incitement and calls for murder."

Baramki is marked in a different way. His university was closed

Israel's self-imposed dilemma

By Philip Geyelin

RAMALLAH, Israeli-Occupied West Bank — By way of illuminating an aspect of the tormenting "Palestinian" issue that you don't hear much about, allow me to introduce three distinguished figures from around here:

Ibrahim Dakkak, the chairman of the West Bank Engineers' Union and Trade Association and frequent participant in past international gatherings of engineers; Akram Hanafi, newly elected chairman of the West Bank Journalists' Union and Editor-in-Chief of the East Jerusalem daily newspaper, Al Sabah; and Gaby Baramki, acting president of Bir Zeit University for the past seven years and a participant two years ago in an Aspen Institute "Great Books" summer seminar in Colorado.

Three case histories, each inherently controversial (the transient visitor is ill-equipped to weigh every allegation, let alone "secret evidence"). But each is illustrative of Israel's cruel and, to some degree, self-imposed dilemma. By its own definition of its "security" requirements, it cannot afford to let go of the West Bank, as it is doing with the nearly vacant Sinai.

But neither can Israel hold onto it without somehow "taming" an unruly and resistant Palestinian Arab populace. For this, the government of Prime Minister Menachem Begin can see no alternative to repression, not just of active terrorists but of Palestinian causists who in every other respect would be counted as respected citizens.

Assuming no negotiated solution — which is what Israeli policy seems increasingly to assume — the obvious question is whether it will work. The Palestinians tell you resistance will only stiffen, others that it will wither.

But suppose that, after a fashion, the policy does work. Can an Arab population of 1.2 million people (the West Bank plus Gaza) be fitted into the concept of a state? At this point, in most speculation, a South African analogy is conjured up.

Suppose it doesn't work. Here you get the Ulster analogy. For how long can Israel reconcile cherished and traditional values with "security", measured in arbitrary confinement, censorship, bans on assembly, reprisals (the flattening of homes) against provocations (stones or home-made gasoline bombs thrown at Israeli military vehicles) that are not exactly eye-for-an-eye?

The answer almost has to be that, for any protracted period, it can't. Yet this is the aspect of the "Palestinian problem" that one bears the least about. You can see what Israel is doing to the West Bank. What you can only sense is what the West Bank is doing to Israel.

— The Washington Post

No rest for the chancellor

By Robert Langen

(DaD)

BONN — The Bonn coalition of Social and Free Democrats has only just emerged, bloodied but unbowed, from the turmoil over 1982 budget cuts. The Social Democrats (SPD) can look forward without undue misgivings to the next test of the coalition's tensile strength, their Munich party conference, at which NATO missile modernisation and Chancellor Schmidt's security policy are sure to come under fire.

But much of the sting has been taken out of the security debate by President Reagan's offer to the Russians of a zero option on medium-range missiles.

The coalition is more worried about the outcome of mid-term state assembly elections in the Federal Republic of Germany this year. There will be four polls, in Lower Saxony on Mar. 21, in Hamburg on June 6, in Hesse on Sept. 26 and in Bavaria on Oct. 10. In Lower Saxony Christian Democrat Premier Ernst Albrecht seems sure of re-election; so, by any standards, does Bavaria's Franz Josef Strauss. In Hamburg and Hesse the SPD could well be the loser.

In Hamburg the Social Democrats are in power. Both they and the Christian Democrats (CDU) have experienced local leaders: Mayor



U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig has declined to rule out increased U.S. military involvement if this became necessary to prevent a communist takeover. So far this involvement is confined to 50 American advisers sent by President Reagan.

Many of Washington's allies, in contrast, would prefer to see a political solution through negotiations between the junta and the guerrillas.

This apparently accounts for their reluctance even to act as observers at the March elections in which left-wing parties have refused to stand.

Denmark, Holland, Greece and Australia as well as West Germany have turned down requests from the junta for observers.

In Italy, attitudes to El Salvador have become important enough to cause a growing rift in the ruling coalition.

The Socialists and Christian Democrats, major partners in the Italian cabinet, differ sharply on their attitudes to the Salvadorean government of President Jose Napoleon Duarte.

The socialists have demanded the government withdraw a sta-

NATO divided over El-Salvador

By Harvey Morris

Reuter

LONDON — El Salvador is at last turning into a political issue among U.S. allies a year after Washington urged them to back its anti-communist policy there.

But, rather than toeing the line, a number of Britain's Conservative government are making up its mind about sending observers in response to a request from the El Salvador junta last Dec. 1.

Even so, it took almost three months for Britain's Conservative government to make up its mind about sending observers in response to a request from the El Salvador junta last Dec. 1.

In West Germany, where media coverage of El Salvador has almost rivalled the space allotted to Poland, a Bonn government spokesman noted, without elaboration, that a junta request for observers had been turned down.

The majority party in the ruling West German coalition, the Social Democratic Party (SPD), does not hide its opposition to the present El Salvador junta.

"The brutality with which, in particular, the armed forces of the ruling junta carry on murdering people cannot be accepted by anyone," SPD parliamentarians said in a statement this month.

In the past year, however, Western news coverage of the violence between left-wing guerrillas and the forces of the U.S.-backed junta has turned El Salvador into a subject of major public concern, not only in the United States.

In direct contradiction to Reagan administration policy on El Salvador, the statement added that the SPD opposed "all economic and military support for the ruling junta."

This year's U.S. aid to the Junta totals \$1.85 million, including \$81 million in military assistance.

Britain, which is often close to the Reagan administration on for-

Reagan, advisers discuss Soviet pipeline to Europe

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan called his advisers to the White House Friday to discuss how far he should go in opposing the construction of a pipeline to carry Soviet natural gas to Western Europe, administration officials said.

The officials said the issue, involving differences between the State Department and the Defense Department, was on the agenda for a meeting of the National Security Council Friday afternoon.

The 10-billion-dollar, 4,500-kilometre pipeline is opposed by the United States because it believes it would make Western Europe too dependent on Soviet supplies.

The officials said the Pentagon wants the president to prevent European companies from making vital parts for the pipeline under licence from the U.S. company General Electric. General Electric cannot supply the parts itself because of sanctions imposed by the president against the Soviet Union over the imposition of martial law in Poland.

But Secretary of State Alexander Haig, anxious to prevent a possible crisis in U.S. relations with West European governments, favours a softer approach, the officials said.

The issue of how far the United States should press its allies on the pipeline and adopting economic sanctions against the Soviet Union has delayed the departure for Europe of a team headed by James Buckley, Under-Secretary of State for Security Systems, Sci-

Pisani proposes an open-ended trade, aid convention in Lome

THE HAGUE (R) — The European Economic Community (EEC) Development Commissioner, Edgard Pisani, suggested Friday night that the next Lome trade and aid convention should be open-ended and not expire after a five-year period at present.

The Lome 2 convention linking 61 African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) nations to the EEC came into force on January 1, 1981.

Mr. Pisani told a forum of Dutch non-governmental development aid organisations the next Lome convention period should be indefinite, but time limits could be imposed for certain types of cooperation within its framework.

He recommended maintenance of the existing Lome convention's institutional, contractual and political ties.

But he added that changes must not be excluded, giving as an example reforestation operations in Africa which could take half a century. He said the discovery of mineral resources had come to an end in some African countries.

Mr. Pisani said the EEC must encourage local agricultural production in African nations.

He said he would start a tour of EEC capitals on Monday aimed at opening discussions on the next Lome convention.

ence and Technology. M.Buckley's mission will be to discuss sanctions and to press President Reagan's case against West European participation in construction of the natural gas pipeline from Siberia, officials said.

The pipeline issue was also raised Friday in discussions between West German Economic Affairs Minister Otto Lambdorff and U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

Count Lambdorff, who winds up a four-day visit to Washington Friday, has defended the pipeline in discussions with senior administration officials.

Thursday he singled out recent remarks by Mr. Weinberger in Munich which the defence secretary asserted the pipeline would make Europe too dependent on Soviet energy.

"European calculations which show that this is not the case are ignored, even though many Americans, too, have long since confirmed this," he said.

Europe would only get a small percentage of its energy needs through the pipeline but this would reduce its reliance on Middle East supplies, he added.

The U.S. has also been concerned that Soviet gas sales would allow that country a huge influx of hard currency which it could use to

increase its military capability. Count Lambdorff argued however that the funds could be used to pay for purchases of U.S. wheat.

The budget also offered tax incentives to boost domestic production, exports and private savings.

Indian defence spending to rise 11%

NEW DELHI (R) — India's defence spending will rise next year by 11 per cent to \$1 billion rupees (\$5.65 billion) under the new budget unveiled Saturday.

The budget for the financial year 1982-83, starting on April 1, was presented to parliament by Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee.

Mr. Mukherjee, who took over the financial portfolio last month, said the increase in the defence budget was owing to what he called the uncertain external environment.

He said the overall deficit next year would total 13.65 billion rupees (\$1.51 billion), down from the revised deficit estimate of 17 billion rupees (\$1.88 billion) for the current year.

The minister said additional revenue would be raised through higher excise and customs duties on some items.

The budget also offered tax incentives to boost domestic production, exports and private savings.

Accords on rescheduling Poland's debts unlikely before late March

FRANKFURT (R) — Poland still owes Western banks at least \$50 million in interest on its 1981 debts and a rescheduling agreement is unlikely to be signed before the end of March, European banking sources said today.

The agreement to defer repayments of \$2.4 billion that fell due in the last three quarters of 1981 was to have been signed in Frankfurt next Thursday, but was conditional on Warsaw paying all the 1981 interest.

Frankfurt banking sources said

at least \$50 million of the interest was still unpaid Friday. A Swiss banking source in Zurich confirmed that some payments were still outstanding although he said they continued to flow in throughout the week.

The Swiss source, who monitors repayments of Polish debts to Swiss banks, said that a few technical matters had also to be settled before the rescheduling agreement could be signed. He estimated it would be signed only towards the end of March.

Poland set itself a deadline of the middle of February to pay the interest on its 1981 debts. When the deadline expired, European banking sources estimated that between \$100 million and 150 million was still outstanding.

Poland owes about \$16 billion to Western banks and 10 billion more to Western governments.

The Swiss source said there seemed no doubt the Poles were genuinely trying to pay off the 1981 interest as soon as possible.

German machine tool industry faces threat from Japanese inroads

By Kevin Done

FRANKFURT — In the West German machine tool industry Herr Werner Babel is known by some rivals as the "Japanese in the Allgau." From his headquarters at Pfronten in the Allgau close to the Austrian border, an area better known for health resorts and downhill ski slopes than as a nerve centre of German industry, Babel has taken on the Japanese at their own game, concentrating on standardisation and series production.

West German machine tool makers, one of the most important components of the German industrial machine, still command the leading role in world trade, controlling around 26 per cent of world machine tool exports, double the Japanese share.

The Federal Republic is still the world's second largest machine tool producer with an output worth DM 8.5 billion (about \$3.7 billion) in 1980, only a hairbreadth behind U.S. production of DM 8.7 billion and still well ahead of the Japanese with DM 6.9 billion. But its influence is on the wane.

Late last autumn about 100 senior executives from some of Germany's leading machine tool manufacturers gathered in a Frankfurt hotel to consider the results of a special study commissioned by an industry worried about failing competitiveness in the face of the Japanese export onslaught. Watching the rapid encroachment of the Japanese in growth sectors such as numerically controlled lathes and machining centres, the German machine tool industry is anxiously seeking a strategy for counter-attack.

The experience of Herr Babel's Maho group in Pfronten offers an object lesson for West German companies still pondering how they should respond to the Japanese attack. Babel himself main-

tains that German companies that do not wake up to the challenge in the next two to three years will soon find themselves in the bankruptcy courts.

"The applications for our machines are so great that we cannot afford to go in for manufacturing tailor-made machines," he says.

As a leading manufacturer of milling and boring machines, Maho has also entered directly into the market for electronically controlled machining centres again strong Japanese competition.

Maho is confident that it is entering a strong growth market. First introduced in 1979, the NC machining centres accounted for 10 per cent of Maho's turnover in 1980/1981 and this year the share could be 30-35 per cent. Most significantly, too, the products are aimed at small and medium-sized companies, a market segment where the Japanese have found particularly rich pickings for their relatively low-cost standardised products.

How far can such an approach be followed? Some companies have not been hit by the Japanese competition and are unlikely to be affected in the near future. According to the West German Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association (VDW), makers of special machines which require an intensive dialogue between customer and manufacturer during

planning, construction and assembly have scarcely been hit.

The West German machine tools sector owes much of its traditional strength to the fact that it is made up of such a large number of small and medium-sized companies, many with highly specialised activities.

The industry comprises around 450 companies, but of these only 15 have more than 1,000 employees. The average turnover is only DM 2.7 million a year and annual sales of DM 150 million or more put a machine tool manufacturer in the big league in West Germany.

According to Herr Helmut von Monshaw, director of the VDW, the diversity of the industry has allowed it to react in the past with great flexibility to changing market demands. But the Japanese challenge, based on the rapid application of modern electronic technologies, has wrong-footed important sections of the industry.

Japan's success has been particularly marked in the areas of numerically controlled lathes and machining centres. In 1980 the Japanese accounted for around 50 per cent of the U.S. market for numerically controlled lathes, more than a third of the German market and around half of the French demand. At the same time they supplied about 50 per cent of the machining centres bought in the Federal Republic, about two-thirds of those bought in France and more than a third of those bought in the U.S.

VDW reckons that the Japanese have a production volume advantage over the Germans of at least 4-to-1 with all the gains that brings in greater automation of production.

Japanese machine tool makers buying electronic control com-

ponents also have the advantage that they operate on the home territory of Fujitsu-Fanuc, which controls no less than 50 percent of the total world market for such equipment.

Fanuc's exclusive sales representative in the Federal Republic is Siemens, but to buy the same Fanuc components in Germany through Siemens can work out more than 50 per cent more expensive than direct purchases made by Japanese machine tool makers in Japan. Given that these electronic control components can represent 15-20 per cent of the total costs of a machine tool it is clear that the German industry has grounds for complaint.

The machines bought in the Federal Republic are significantly bigger and more expensive than machines purchased in Japan. At home the Japanese have concentrated on smaller machines and have considerable advantages in the economies of scale in production over their German rivals. The German industry calculates that the Japanese have manufacturing cost advantages of as much as 35-40 per cent in these two categories of NC lathes and machining centres. The advantages accrue from a combination of:

- Higher production volumes and greater standardisation,
- lower labour costs,
- purchasing price advantages for vital components such as electronic control equipment,
- Different manufacturing processes,
- lighter construction,
- more modest machine performance.

VDW reckons that the Japanese are already meeting the Japanese challenge. Some, such as the Baden-Wurttemberg-based Trumpf have even ventured with notable success into the lion's den and are notching up significant sales in the Japanese market itself.

In Japan, Trumpf concentrates on offering a specialist high per-

formance product range, but the company's general worldwide strategy is different.

"We have always tried to get series production," says Herr Berthold Leibinger, owner and chief executive. "We have never gone in for single solutions. We take on special contracts only when we think this equipment will become a series product." About 90 per cent of the group's turnover is in standard products.

If it is to cut costs in order to hold its competitiveness in world markets, the machine tool industry in Germany must itself invest heavily to restructure and re-equip. Trumpf has already reached the stage through the introduction of highly automated production processes of an unnamed third shift, the so-called "ghost shift," where machines operate entirely without production personnel.

Herr Babel of Maho maintains: "If industry in future is to remain competitive despite further rising costs, it will hardly be able to load machines in just one shift, when theoretically they can work for nearly 9,000 hours a year."

With an under-developed home market for NC equipment the German machine tool makers lack the necessary springboard to launch themselves decisively into world markets. There is not enough readiness to accept and introduce new production processes in Germany," argues the VDW's von Monshaw. "Companies do not want to be guinea-pigs, they are waiting for 100 per cent solutions, which are probably too expensive anyway. There is not enough readiness to take risks."

— Financial Times news feature

JORDAN TELEVISION

BBC WORLD SERVICE
639, 720, 1413 KHz

CHANNEL 3

4:30 Koran
4:50 Cartoons
5:15 Children's programmes
7:00 Programme Preview
7:10 Programme on Sports
8:00 News in Arabic
8:30 Arabic Series
10:15 Local Cultural Programme
11:30 News in Arabic

CHANNEL 6

6:00 French programme

7:30 News in French

8:00 News in Hebrew

8:30 News in Arabic

9:10 "Fighter Pilot"

10:00 "Seagull Island"

10:15 News in English

10:15 The Love Boat

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM

& 99 MHz, FM

7:00 Sign on

7:01 Morning Show

7:30 News Bulletin

7:40 Morning Show

News Headlines

10:30 Pop Session

11:00 Sign off

12:00 News Headlines

12:30 Pop Session

13:00 News Summary

13:30 Pop Session

14:00 News Bulletin

14:30 Instruments

14:30 Invention and Discoveries

15:00 Concert Hour

15:00 News Summary

16:00 Instruments

16:30 Old Favourites

17:00 Listener's Choice

18:00 News Summary

18:30 Jazz Hour

19:00 Newsdesk

19:30 Instruments

20:00 Evening Show

News Summary

21:00 Evening Show

22:00 Evening Show

22:00 Close down

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT

03:30 The Breakfast Show: 06:30

DEPARTURES:

3:30 Cairo
6:45 Beirut
7:00 Agaba
8:30 London (BA)
9:00 Rome (Alitalia)
9:25 Cairo (EA)
9:25 Beirut (MEA)
10:00 Frankfurt
10:30 Rome
11:15 Athens
11:30 Cairo
12:45 Riyadh (SV)
13:00 Jeddah
14:45 Baghdad
20:15 Dubai, Muscat
20:45 Bahrain, Doha
21:15 Bangkok
22:00 Bagdad
02:00 Cairo (EA)

ARRIVALS:

8:00 Cairo (EA)
8:45 Cairo
8:55 Agaba
9:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi
9:30 Jeddah
9:40 Kuwait (MEA)
10:10 Beirut
11:05 Riyadh (SV)
14:00 Jeddah
15:35 Kuwait (KAC)
16:30 Cairo
16:45 Tripoli, Tunis
17:00 Mufid Hamza
17:10 Paris
17:30 Park, London
17:45 New York, Vienna
17:50 Brussels, Geneva
18:00 Cairo
18:10 Athens, Zurich (SR)
19:30 Rome
20

SPORTS

Borg describes rule requiring him to qualify as 'ridiculous'

LONDON (R) — Bjorn Borg Saturday described as ridiculous the rule that requires him to qualify for all Grand Prix tennis tournaments and said the might go fishing rather than compete in the French Open or Wimbledon.

The 25-year-old Swede, who has won the French title six times and Wimbledon on five occasions, was speaking in a radio interview recorded in Monte Carlo where he will make his return to tournament tennis in April after a three-month break.

Borg is prepared to commit himself to only seven Grand Prix tournaments in 1982 rather than 10 as required by the rules. Consequently, he must qualify for all Grand Prix events which include the French Open, Wimbledon and the U.S. Open.

In an interview last week he indicated he would compete in the U.S. Open which he has never won and which he nominated as his main target for 1982.

Borg also admitted that, to some extent, he was to blame for what had happened. "I am a

Gemini," he said. "They are very stubborn."

Asked what he would do if he did not compete for the French or Wimbledon titles, Borg laughed at a suggestion that he might join a commentary team and said: "I'll probably go fishing."

But he said he might not make a final decision about whether he would compete until three or four days before the qualifying competitions.

Palm claims vacant title

COPENHAGEN (R) — Hans Henrik Palm of Denmark won the vacant European welterweight boxing title Friday night when the referee stopped his fight against French challenger Georges Warusfel in the second round.

Warusfel was a late replacement for British and Commonwealth champion Colin Jones of Wales, who pulled out of the fight because of appendicitis.

The foundation—which laid to rest fears that the Australian quick bowlers would have a picnic on this controversial wicket—was never spectacular but undeniably valuable.

The first four sessions of the match were lost to the weather leaving only four hours play on what should have been the second day Saturday.

At the end of it New Zealand had scored 107 runs for the loss of Wright.

There was never much for the disappointing crowd of about 7,000 to shout about, but they were able to see the New Zealand batsmen prove themselves under adversity.

A week earlier a crowd of 18,000 had watched the home side crash for 74 in the deciding one-day international of the Rothmans Cup Series.

That day filled batsmen on both sides with a dread of the Basin Reserve strip.

Rain, which kept the groundsmen from tending it for three days this week, heightened those fears and it was with great relief that Australian captain Greg Chappell won the toss—making it six out of six for

Chappell at slip.

He eventually fell for 38 after more than three hours when he jumped down the wicket to off-spinner Bruce Yardley and flicked a catch which deflected from wicket keeper Rod Marsh's gloves to Chappell at slip.

Edgar and Wright put their heads down and crawled to 18 in the first hour.

Both survived lbw appeals and Wright was fortunate when an edge just failed to carry to Alderman at third slip.

Wright took 67 minutes to open his account and hit only two scoring shots in his first hour and a half at the crease.

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WORLD

Exchanges gifts with Pope John Paul II

Mitterrand discusses global issues with Italian leaders

ROME (R) — Pope John Paul II on Saturday exchanged gifts with French President François Mitterrand after discussing the world situation with him during a private Vatican audience.

Vatican officials gave no details of the talks but French sources said political conflict in El Salvador and in the Pope's native Poland were mentioned during the one-hour meeting in the papal library.

Mr. Mitterrand then presented the Pope with 18 reproductions of gold seals sent by the cardinals to Saint Louis IX, king of France, for the Council of Lyons in 1270.

In return, Pope John Paul gave the French leader a book on the Vatican and Christian Rome, as well as a set of three gold, silver and bronze pontifical medals.

Vatican spokesman Don Pierfranco Pasinetti told journalists Mr. Mitterrand's first official visit to the Holy See included a brief meeting with Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, the Pope's pro-secretary of state in charge of foreign affairs.

Poland was also the dominant

theme of Mr. Mitterrand's meetings earlier Saturday with secretaries of the Italian Socialist and Communist parties.

Communist Party leader Enrico Berlinguer told journalists he had found many points in common with President Mitterrand on Poland, a subject which has sharply divided the Soviet and Italian Communist parties.

Italy's official support of the initiative, announced by Prime Minister Giovanni Spadolini Friday night, was one clear result of the day's ministerial consultations.

The three countries are setting up an expert group to seek ways of minimising the harmful economic effects of high U.S. interest rates, possibly by organising inter-European loans at less than the market rate to stimulate business recovery.

But they are both situations in which it is difficult for us to have direct influence," he said later. "The decisions are not in European hands, and all we can do is express our views."

Christian Democrat Party Secretary Flaminio Piccoli was unable to meet Mr. Mitterrand at the French embassy, an ornate palace in the heart of historic Rome, because of a family death.

Valerio Zanone, secretary of

the small Liberal Party which is part of the coalition, said that during his 30-minute meeting with Mr. Mitterrand he had welcomed a Franco-West German initiative to find ways of lowering interest rates in Europe.

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U.S. plans war games near Cuba

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. is planning a major naval exercise in the Caribbean region this spring including a mock troop landing at the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, according to defense officials.

NATO is due to hold an exercise next month in the Gulf of Mexico and the Florida Straits.

Although officials would not link the exercises to any development in Cuba, they do reflect the administration's concern over what it calls increasing Soviet influence in Cuba and the area.

Western strategists consider the

area's sea lanes vital for shipping supplies from the southern U.S. to Europe in case of war.

Officials said Friday night the Guantanamo Bay landing would be part of a broader exercise in the Caribbean codenamed "Ocean Venture 82."

It is set for April, and will be similar to a Caribbean exercise last summer which included about 120,000 troops, 250 ships and 1,000 aircraft.

Administration sources claim a Soviet arms buildup in Cuba has reached the highest levels since

the 1962 Cuban missile crisis and includes two squadrons of advanced MiG-23 fighters.

There have been published reports that the Soviet Union is supplying Cuba with two additional squadrons of 12 planes each, but these have not been confirmed.

In Bogota, a top U.S. navy chief said next month's NATO exercise was routine. "We are not planning to threaten or intimidate Cuba or any other country," Admiral Harry Train, who heads the U.S. fleet in the Atlantic, told reporters.

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Carrington says Zimbabwe stable

SALISBURY (R) — British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington Friday described Zimbabwe's political situation as stable but said he detected some unease among the country's white minority.

He told a news conference on the final day of a two-day visit that during discussions with Prime Minister Robert Mugabe he had raised the issue of the recent detentions of whites on suspicions of plotting subversive acts.

"I mentioned the anxiety that was felt in some quarters, in my

country and elsewhere, about the detentions without trial, particularly I think of Mr. Stutterford," Lord Carrington said.

White Member of Parliament Wally Stutterford, 61, has been in solitary confinement since last December when he was detained on suspicion of plotting a coup. Mr. Mugabe has said Mr. Stutterford and an estimated 16 whites detained in similar circumstances will eventually appear in court.

"I do think that the situation is stable, but I do think that there is some unease in the white population here," the foreign secretary said.

Lord Carrington's visit has taken place at a time of political upheaval in Zimbabwe since the dismissal from the coalition cabinet last week of Mr. Mugabe's

former nationalist ally Joshua Nkomo.

Mr. Nkomo and two other ministers from his minority ZAPU party were dismissed after the discovery of large arms caches on property owned by the party which Mr. Mugabe said were intended for use in a coup attempt.

The demise of Mr. Nkomo has been seen by some diplomatic sources in Salisbury as a significant move towards Mr. Mugabe's often-stated target of establishing a one-party state.

Lord Carrington, who two years ago helped to draw up the Zimbabwe independence constitution allowing for multi-party democracy in the former Rhodesia, Friday repeated that he considered the dismissals an internal affair.

Dozier arrives back in Verona

VICENZA, Italy (R) — U.S. Gen. James Dozier arrived here Friday after home leave following his 42-day kidnap ordeal at the hands of Red Brigades guerrillas.

Gen. Dozier will spend a few days on the joint U.S.-Italian base here before returning to work in Verona, an army spokesman said.

A summary trial of about 20 suspected Red Brigades members, including the five arrested when Gen. Dozier was freed, is due to be held in Verona next month, judicial sources said.

The summary trial, often held in Italy pending investigations of more serious crimes, will be on charges of kidnapping and illegal possession of firearms, which themselves carry heavy sentences.

The trial concerning Gen. Dozier's kidnapping and other Red Brigades activities, including charges of insurrection against the state, will be held in Milan at a later date, the sources said.

Police arrested more than 150 suspected Red Brigades members after Gen. Dozier was freed.

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